

I would like to call FCC attention to two major concerns. The first- Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

My second concern is simple- I feel that media such as TV and radio are being used to manipulate the ways people eat, how they live, even their very notion of happiness. Messages coming mainly from advertisements have thwarted our nation and we become increasingly a consumer culture. I would like to see advertising controls strengthened and care taken to ensure that distorted and misleading information isn't distributed about products that actually aren't good for people, communities, and the environment. Thank-you.